

9/816553

Refine Search

Search Results -

Terms	Documents
L49 not L27	5

Database:

US Pre-Grant Publication Full-Text Database
 US Patents Full-Text Database
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 EPO Abstracts Database
 JPO Abstracts Database
 Derwent World Patents Index
 IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletins

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L50

Refine Search

Recall Text

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Search History

DATE: Thursday, May 20, 2004 [Printable Copy](#) [Create Case](#)

<u>Set Name</u>	<u>Query</u>	<u>Hit Count</u>	<u>Set Name</u> result set
<i>DB=USPT; THES=ASSIGNEE; PLUR=YES; OP=OR</i>			
<u>L50</u>	L49 not I27	5	<u>L50</u>
<u>L49</u>	L48 not I37	9	<u>L49</u>
<u>L48</u>	L47 not I36	9	<u>L48</u>
<u>L47</u>	L46 and 705/26,27,28.ccls.	10	<u>L47</u>
<u>L46</u>	L45 and chain\$	7691	<u>L46</u>
<u>L45</u>	(suppl\$ or distribut\$) and (performance with compar\$) and @ ad <=20010323	32605	<u>L45</u>
<u>L44</u>	(suppl\$ or distribut\$) and (performance with (compar\$ or rank?)) and @ ad <=20010323	32641	<u>L44</u>
<u>L43</u>	L41 and 705/? .ccls	0	<u>L43</u>
<u>L42</u>	L41 and 705/26,27,28.ccls	0	<u>L42</u>
<u>L41</u>	L17 and (compar\$ with performance)	32605	<u>L41</u>
<u>L40</u>	L39 and (compar\$ with perform\$)	0	<u>L40</u>

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<u>L38</u>	L36 and (compar\$ with perform\$)	2	<u>L38</u>
<u>L37</u>	L36 and performance	4	<u>L37</u>
<u>L36</u>	5774870.pn. or 6542905.pn. or 5451998.pn. or 5570291.pn. or 6606744.pn. or 6664972.pn.	6	<u>L36</u>
<u>L35</u>	L34 and 705/26,27,28.ccls.	3	<u>L35</u>
<u>L34</u>	L33 not I27	140	<u>L34</u>
<u>L33</u>	L32 and (catalog\$ with (suppl\$ or distribut\$ or sell\$ or sale\$))	145	<u>L33</u>
<u>L32</u>	L31 and (chain\$)	18138	<u>L32</u>
<u>L31</u>	L17 and (perform\$ with (compar\$ or rank?))	87531	<u>L31</u>
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<u>L28</u>	L27 not I26	7	<u>L28</u>
<u>L27</u>	I19 and (raw\$ and (product or material or goods))	17	<u>L27</u>
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<u>L9</u>	L8 and 705/? .ccls.	0	<u>L9</u>
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END OF SEARCH HISTORY

First Hit Fwd Refs



Generate Collection

Print

L10: Entry 10 of 11

File: USPT

Oct 29, 1996

US-PAT-NO: 5570291

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5570291 A

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Custom ~~product estimating and order processing~~ system

DATE-ISSUED: October 29, 1996

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Dudle; James	Homewood	IL		
Leatherman; Michael	Tinley Park	IL		
Morrison; Michael	Highland Park	IL		
Schnell; Waldo	Prospect Heights	IL		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Wallace Computer Services, Inc.	Hillside	IL			02

APPL-NO: 08/ 298274 [PALM]

DATE FILED: August 31, 1994

PARENT-CASE:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Ser. No. 08/295,385, filed Aug. 24, 1994 now abandoned, the entire subject matter of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference for all purposes.

INT-CL: [06] G06 F 19/00

US-CL-ISSUED: 364/468.01; 364/401R

US-CL-CURRENT: 700/95; 101/483, 705/10

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 364/188, 364/146, 364/474.22, 364/468, 364/401-403

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

Search ALL

Clear

	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4007362</u>	February 1977	Sindermann	235/151
	<u>4471348</u>	September 1984	London et al.	340/722

<input type="checkbox"/>				
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4598376</u>	July 1986	Burton et al.	364/192
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4826333</u>	May 1989	Tanaka	340/750
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4839829</u>	June 1989	Freedman	364/519
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4862376</u>	August 1989	Ferriter et al.	364/468
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4887206</u>	December 1989	Natarajan	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4953159</u>	August 1990	Hayden et al.	370/62
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4964043</u>	October 1990	Galvin	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5109337</u>	April 1992	Ferriter et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5117354</u>	May 1992	Long et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5189606</u>	February 1993	Burns et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5222211</u>	June 1993	Mueller et al.	395/161
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5241464</u>	August 1993	Greulick et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5249120</u>	September 1993	Foley	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5255207</u>	October 1993	Cornwell	364/512
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5299305</u>	March 1994	Oomae et al.	395/149
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5311438</u>	May 1994	Sellers et al.	364/468
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5317646</u>	May 1994	Sang, Jr. et al.	382/9
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5357439</u>	October 1994	Matsuzaki et al.	364/468

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN-PAT-NO	PUBN-DATE	COUNTRY	US-CL
10141858	May 1985	EP	

ART-UNIT: 236

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Envall, Jr.; Roy N.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Brown; Thomas E.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Roylance, Abrams, Berdo & Goodman, L.L.P.

ABSTRACT:

A system and method for generating estimates and orders for the manufacture of custom items such as business forms is provided which stores estimate data at a central location, e.g., a corporate office, for access by sales representatives at remote sales sites. A sales representative creates an item specification for a form to be manufactured and electronically transmits it to the corporate office for estimate data. Data relating to the cost and list price to produce the form based on the item specification is transmitted to the sales representative. The sales representative determines a sell price from the pricing data, and generates a production order using the item specification and the estimate data, among other data. The production order is transmitted to a manufacturing plant for job

execution. The system manages a centralized repository of item specification, estimate and customer contract data, among other types of data, for analysis and reporting which can be accessed by computers at different manufacturing plants and sales sites.

5 Claims, 37 Drawing figures

First Hit Fwd Refs



Generate Collection

Print

L10: Entry 10 of 11

File: USPT

Oct 29, 1996

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5570291 A

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Custom product estimating and order processing system

Application Filing Date (1):
19940831

Brief Summary Text (4):

Most businesses and other types of organizations rely on a large variety of consumable products such as forms, labels, diskettes, computer paper and computer supplies to collect, store and distribute important information. These organizations can benefit from a comprehensive management system for these information-processing products which can include on-screen form and label design, database management, inventory management, and automated entry of orders and other types of data.

Brief Summary Text (5):

Manufacturers of business information products such as forms and labels generally employ a number of sales representatives located both at the corporate office(s) and offices remotely located therefrom. The sales representatives interact with customers, that is, businesses requiring office supplies such as forms and other products for recording and distributing business-related data, to determine the format and content of a form, label or other product which best suits the customers' data collection and management needs. Following form design, the sales representative generates an order to specify the number of forms be printed, form size, paper quality, ink color, print type, number of plies, requested shipping dates, and fastener type, among other information. Order generation is typically a manual process for the sales representative. Thus, the customer interaction process can be arduous and time-consuming because of the multitude of options that are considered when designing and ordering a form.

Brief Summary Text (6):

After a detailed order is created, a sales representative typically forwards the order electronically or by regular mail to a central corporate office. The order is usually processed at the manufacturer's corporate office to select, from among a number of manufacturing plants co-located with or remotely located from the corporate office, the best equipped plant to fulfill the order. The order is finally forwarded to the selected plant, which manufactures and ships the product in accordance with the specifications in the order. The corporate office generally also performs accounting functions to bill the customer for the manufactured products.

Brief Summary Text (12):

A disadvantage to calculating price entirely at the sales site, that is, without requiring the exchange of any pricing data with the corporate office during the estimation process, is the lack of corporate office control over the list price offered by the sales representative to the customer. Such control may be desirable for a number of reasons. For example, simple forms such as one-sided, single-ply, carbonless forms can be priced in a relatively straightforward manner at the sales

site, provided the material and form feature cost tables constructed by most forms manufacturers for pricing are updated. The equipment set-up time, run speeds and labor required for these types of manufacturing jobs are generally known and factored into the tables. Complicated forms (e.g., multi-ply forms with carbon papers and various perforations and fasteners or hole punching requirements) that are priced using these tables, however, are more likely to be underpriced because slower equipment run speeds, longer set-up times and other factors were not taken into consideration when generating the tables. These other factors can include, for example, the ability of different plants to perform the desired manufacturing processes, and customer and/or manufacturer item-specific contract data. By involving the corporate office in the estimation process, these factors can be taken into account when appropriate. Even when complex forms are not involved, the corporation may simply wish to have corporate office personnel review a sales representative's estimate, for example, because a proposed job exceeds a certain sell price, or involves a new or highly valued customer. Further, previous estimates that are stored at the corporate office can be used for operations and sales administration purposes. For example, previous estimates can be analyzed to locate which potential customers have been approached by a sales representative, to perform analysis such as determining how many estimates mature into product orders, and to determine which sales representatives deserve rewards for their successful endeavors or require additional training and incentives to improve their performance.

Drawing Description Text (3):

FIG. 1 is a schematic block diagram depicting corporate office, sales and plant hardware subsystems in a product estimating and order processing system constructed in accordance with the present invention;

Detailed Description Text (15):

MIPS 89 is used by a manufacturing plant 14 to manage jobs for cost efficiency and can, for example, be stored in the memory of the plant minicomputer 56. MIPS comprises a plurality of software subsystems which are shown in FIG. 2. The Planning Bill of Materials subsystem 102 determines the materials, shop equipment, and processing time required to fulfill an order based on item specifications in a production order. An advantage of the order processing system 10 of the present invention is that the item specifications are stored in a memory device after they are transmitted to and received at a plant and therefore do not have to be re-entered in the plant or the corporate office computer systems. The Job Scheduling and Tracking subsystem 100 can schedule the completion of jobs in a manner which improves plant efficiency. For example, the MIPS 89 can schedule several jobs for different customers to be processed at the same time because the jobs require the same color ink or the same number of plies. The Shop Floor Control subsystem 110 monitors where a product is located at a given point in time during the plant manufacturing process and provides this data to the Job Scheduling and Tracking subsystem 100.

Detailed Description Text (16):

MIPS 89 further comprises a Raw Materials Inventory Control subsystem 104 for monitoring supplies (e.g., paper, ink), and informing the Purchasing subsystem 84 when raw materials are needed. A Receiving subsystem 106 monitors the receipt of raw materials for custom product manufacturing, as well as receipt of finished goods, e.g., release order forms that have already been produced and are being warehoused, and office supplies such as staplers that are offered for resale in a catalogue along with the release forms. A Data Collection subsystem 108 collects data relating to materials and labor used per job, per customer and per plant. This data can be used for internally monitoring the performance of the plant. This data can also be used by the Labor and Materials subsystem 94 for cost accounting.

Detailed Description Text (22):

The Customer Inventory subsystem 118 (FIG. 3) allows either the customer or the

sales representative to track inventory at the customer location. Two methods are provided for tracking inventory. The first method employs inventory counts, that is, counting receipt, on-order, and ending inventory amounts and entering them into the system at the end of the month. The second method employs bar codes for perpetual inventory monitoring, that is, scanning bar codes on inventory items indicating receipt, on-order, usage and transfer transactions on a daily basis or as they occur. This subsystem offers the customer valuable information to prevent stock-out situations, as well as useful trend usage analysis. If the inventory database is kept up-to-date, the customer inventory subsystem can offer additional benefits such as ad-hoc query creation and reports, which help users to track inventory and overall usage of their products.

Detailed Description Text (31):

The process of generating an item specification for a business form at a sales site 12, obtaining estimate data from a corporate office 16, and ultimately forwarding a production order for the custom manufacture of the form to a plant 14 is described in connection with the flow chart depicted in FIG. 4. With reference to block 140 in FIG. 4, a sales representative determines customer requirements for a business form during, for example, a meeting with the customer, and begins to enter a corresponding item specification into a PC 62 or to modify an existing item specification by selecting the Estimate subsystem 115 from the main menu (FIG. 3) of the SIN system appearing on the PC monitor. The PC is programmed to subsequently generate the screen depicted FIG. 5. Depending on which of the menu options shown in the bottom half of the screen (FIG. 5) the sales representative selects, another screen is generated. For example, if the sales representative selects the Construction menu option, the PC generates one or more of the screens depicted in FIGS. 6 through 10 to guide the sales representative when entering such material specifications of the form as with paper grade, color and weight (FIG. 6), information regarding paper plies and special processes (e.g., spot carbon coating) that can be applied to the paper (FIG. 7), information regarding carbon sheets (FIG. 8), information about products that are delivered in a roll form (FIG. 9), and the material and desired construction of labels (FIG. 10), among other form construction options.

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw D
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☐ 9. Document ID: US 4495029 A

L11: Entry 9 of 10

File: USPT

Jan 22, 1985

US-PAT-NO: 4495029

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 4495029 A

TITLE: Process for the preparation of coated paper and cardboard and coating materials for the performance of the process

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw D
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☐ 10. Document ID: US 3763612 A

L11: Entry 10 of 10

File: USPT

Oct 9, 1973

US-PAT-NO: 3763612

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 3763612 A

TITLE: COMPOSITE FIREDOOR WITH AN ADJUSTABLE EDGE

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference			Claims	KWIC	Draw D
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Clear	Generate Collection	Print	Fwd Refs	Bkwd Refs	Generate OACS
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Terms	Documents
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Display Format:

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First Hit Fwd Refs

End of Result Set



Generate Collection

Print

L12: Entry 2 of 2

File: USPT

Oct 29, 1996

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5570291 A

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Custom product estimating and order processing system

Application Filing Date (1):

19940831

Detailed Description Text (2):

FIG. 1 depicts an estimating and order processing system 10 for constructed in accordance with the present invention. The order processing system 10 comprises one or more sales offices or sites 12 (which may be dedicated offices or simply desk top computers operated by sales representatives at the customers' offices), and one or more manufacturing plants 14, which are both connected to at least one corporate office 16 by communication links as described below. In general, the sales offices and plants are remote, although they can be co-located with the corporate office. The computer-based systems at the corporate office 16, the sales site 12 and the plant 14 and their interconnecting communication links collectively form a wide area network (WAN).

Detailed Description Text (13):

As will be described below in connection with the Manufacturing Information Processing System (MIPS), a Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 and a Data Collection subsystem 108 monitor the materials used in the plants for fulfilling customer orders. The plant 14 provides data from the Data Collection subsystem 108 to the Labor and Material subsystem 94 and to the Estimating subsystem 90 relating to the materials and equipment used, as well as the labor required, to fulfill a particular order. The data from the Data Collection Subsystem 108 is used for performing actual cost analysis at the corporate office, for job planning at the plant and, once the actual materials used to complete an order have been determined, for updating a Planning Bill of Materials subsystem 102 and the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104. The plant 14 can therefore provide data to the sales site regarding the status of an order for improved customer service. Further, the Purchasing subsystem 84 and the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 or the Labor and Material subsystem 94 provides the Estimating subsystem 90 with information concerning material attributes such as weight, paper grade, paper or ink color, material codes and material quote information (e.g., quote number, effective date, and material price) and therefore facilitates the process of determining more accurate estimates for the cost of fulfilling a customer order. Similarly, the Labor and Material subsystem 94 provides the Estimating subsystem 90 with standard material cost information, actual job information received from the Job Scheduling and Tracking subsystem 100 in the various plants, as well as actual production information such as waste percentages, feet per run hour and actual material usage.

Detailed Description Text (14):

Information from the plant is also used by the General Ledger subsystem 96 to generate accounting journal entries. As stated previously, the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 and the Data Collection subsystem 108 monitor the

materials used in the plants for fulfilling customer orders. The Purchasing subsystem 84 receives requisitions from the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104. When the material receipt is received, it is used to update the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem via the Receiving System 106. This information is provided to an Accounts Payable subsystem 98 for automatically tracking the accounts payable to the various vendors of these supplies. The Accounts Payable data is also provided to the General Ledger subsystem 96.

Detailed Description Text (16):

MIPS 89 further comprises a Raw Materials Inventory Control subsystem 104 for monitoring supplies (e.g., paper, ink), and informing the Purchasing subsystem 84 when raw materials are needed. A Receiving subsystem 106 monitors the receipt of raw materials for custom product manufacturing, as well as receipt of finished goods, e.g., release order forms that have already been produced and are being warehoused, and office supplies such as staplers that are offered for resale in a catalogue along with the release forms. A Data Collection subsystem 108 collects data relating to materials and labor used per job, per customer and per plant. This data can be used for internally monitoring the performance of the plant. This data can also be used by the Labor and Materials subsystem 94 for cost accounting.

Detailed Description Text (39):

With reference to the affirmative branch of decision block 145 and block 147, the Estimating subsystem 90 can generate an estimate for an item that is to be priced in accordance with a contractual agreement between the customer and the corporation. As will be described below in connection with FIGS. 28 through 36, contract price matrices can be generated to reflect contractual terms. Contract price matrices can be created as a subset of the standard or generic price matrices used to generate estimates for non-contract items. The generic price matrices can be used for estimating any customers' orders. The generic price matrices are generally based upon raw material prices, equipment and other factors that affect actual cost to fulfill an order. A custom price matrix, on the other hand, can include contractual concessions between the forms manufacturer and the customer resulting in prices below, for example, the standard prices, i.e., discounts for the volume of business the customer brings to the manufacturer. An advantage of using contract price matrices is that they support contract proposal generation by corporate personnel in, for example, a Contract Administration division of the corporation by developing matrices of multiple items. This is particularly useful when the corporation is offering concessions to a customer with a large number of existing forms. The contract matrices eliminate the need to perform an estimate for each form for contract proposal purposes. Since contract terms are stored at the corporate office, corporate personnel can perform contract profit and other types of analysis, and provide contract customers with a common reference for pricing.

Detailed Description Text (46):

As shown in block 166, each computer at the sales office preferably operates in accordance with the SIN 86 to validate production order details, as well as cross-validate selected items with reference to the production order details. The personal computer is also programmed to determine whether or not a customer has a contract with the manufacturer, to ensure the customer has a favorable credit status and to check for a concession percentage. The SIN 86 also stores in memory a version of the estimate used to produce the production order as part of an audit trail. The sales site computers are further programmed to prevent expired estimates from being converted into production orders, to ensure that each production order is linked to a particular estimate unless the order is the result of an outside purchase, as well as to check for concession percentage level. The latter feature enables sales management to be notified when acceptable concession levels are disregarded.

First Hit Fwd Refs

End of Result Set



Generate Collection

Print

L4: Entry 2 of 2

File: USPT

Sep 19, 1995

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5451998 A

TITLE: Home shopping video catalogAbstract Text (1):

This invention is an apparatus and method for shopping at home. The apparatus comprises a video catalog in which a plurality of product images are established, each product image being coordinated with a corresponding product identification in an order form. The video catalog and the order form are distributed to prospective customers. The customers may view the video catalog and product images, and select the corresponding identification of desired product(s) in the order form. Then, to place an order, the customer transmits the order form with the product identification(s) to the merchandiser, by phone, mail or electronic transmission, for example. Then, the merchandiser may arrange for payment of the order by the customer, and delivery of the corresponding product(s) to the customer.

Brief Summary Text (3):

This invention relates generally to an apparatus and method for shopping at home. More specifically, it relates to a video catalog which is coordinated with an order form, and, optionally, a phone ordering system and home delivery network. The video catalog may display moving or still images, or a combination thereof.

Brief Summary Text (6):

Several types of at-home shopping services exist. First, many businesses provide, in their printed advertising, mail-in or phone-in forms for their customers' use. So, printed order forms appear in newspapers and magazines, and in brochures, "flyers" and pamphlets. Second, many businesses provide printed catalogs with mail-in or phone-in forms enclosed. Third, some businesses provide video-taped presentations of their products. Finally, some businesses advertise their products on T.V. or radio with an accompanying announcement of a mail-in address or a phone-in telephone number.

Brief Summary Text (9):

Blutinger et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,231,566, discloses a computer system for assigning a catalog item number to items that are to be listed in the catalog. The computer executes a program which compares an input item to a master list--if the input item is on the master list, the number on the list is assigned to the input item; if the input item is not on the master list, a new catalog item number is generated and assigned to the input item. This way, each unique item has a corresponding unique catalog number.

Brief Summary Text (12):

This invention is an apparatus and method for shopping at home. The apparatus comprises a video catalog in which a plurality of product images are established, each product image being coordinated with a corresponding product identification in an order form. The video catalog and the order form are distributed to prospective customers. The customers may view the video catalog and product images, and select the corresponding identification of desired product(s) in the order form. For example, the order form may be a paper form or an image displayed on a video-tape

playing device or computer video screen, or may be an electronic or computer data file, etc. Then, to place an order, the customer transmits the order form with the product identification(s) to the merchandiser, by phone, mail, fax or modem, for example. Then, the merchandiser may arrange for payment of the order by the customer, and delivery of the corresponding product(s) to the customer.

Brief Summary Text (13):

Preferably, the video catalog is provided with a still image or "freeze-frame" feature so an individual product image may be conveniently viewed. The still images may be interspersed with moving images to establish mood, emotion or ambiance. Audio, such as voices or music, may be included to explain the products or enhance the video shopping experience. Also preferably, the product images may be arranged in order by the merchandiser to depict the atmosphere and layout of the merchandiser store locations, if any. An effect which may be created is one of walking into and through the local supermarket. This way, the merchandiser may strengthen its identity with new customers by increasing the new customers' familiarity with the merchandiser's goods and services and particular style of doing business. Also this way, the merchandiser may benefit from its established good will by helping its regular customers feel more at home with the new video home shopping service.

Brief Summary Text (14):

Also preferably, the product identifications in the order form are organized and indexed for quick reference by the customer. This way, the customers' convenience may be further enhanced. For example, the order form may contain an alphabetical listing of products by product category and name, like "Cereals--Special K.RTM.". Listed with the product name may be a short description of available sizes and prices, for example, and the product's identification for ordering purposes.

Drawing Description Text (3):

FIG. 2 is a schematic, composite perspective view of an optional push-button telephone, a printed order form, and an optional delivery vehicle according to one embodiment of the invention. A product identification in the order form may be called in to the merchandiser for delivery to the customer in the delivery vehicle.

Detailed Description Text (5):

Optionally, the product name corresponding to each product image may also be recorded in the video catalog. Optionally, the product name may also be displayed in close proximity to each product image.

Detailed Description Text (7):

Remote controller 5 may contain a computer which is programmed to respond to information, such as search and order commands, input to it through, for example, buttons 6. These search and order commands initiate other functions of playing device 1, for example, the searching and ordering functions of "go to", "find", and "order". These searching and ordering functions interact with the video catalog to search for and go to particular screen numbers, product identifications, or product names, or to record which product names or identifications the customer wishes to order. The information input into the remote controller computer may be in code, but it relays specific instructions for playing device 1, such as "go to (screen number)", "find (product name)", and "order (product identification)". For example, the playing device 1 may be instructed to display screen number 425 by inputting via buttons 6 the code "go to", "#1", "425", where "#1" is the code for screen number. Or, the playing device 1 may be instructed to display product number 7659 by inputting via buttons 6 the code "find", "#2", "7659", where "#2" is the code for product identification. Or, the playing device 1 may be instructed to display the screen for cereals, or the first display screen number for cereals, etc., by inputting the code "find", "cereals". Alternatively, the computer that is programmed for these searching and ordering control functions, may also be located

in playing device 1, thus making them local control functions.

Detailed Description Text (8):

Playing device 1 plays a VCR cassette or compact disk (CD). The cassette or disk contains a plurality of product images 2 representing products available for purchase. The collections and organization of the product images make up a video catalog. By "video catalog", I mean a collection of product images 2 that may be displayed for the customer's viewing with the aid of an electric or electronic device, like a VCR for video cassette tape, or a CD ROM for video compact disk.

Detailed Description Text (9):

The images of the video catalog may be displayed as moving images, still images, or as a combination of moving and still images. This way, the presentation of the video catalog may be customized according to the merchandiser's desires. For example, the merchandiser may intersperse still images of particular products or serving suggestions for the products with moving images of the merchandiser's storefront, entryway, aisles and display cases to create a sense of familiarity and comfort in the viewers who are familiar with the merchandiser's store locations. This way, video shoppers can "walk down" the aisles and select products for purchase--just as if they were in the merchandiser's store.

Detailed Description Text (10):

Another example of customization would be adding moving image demonstrations or audio discussions of all or some of the products to a separate section in the video catalog. The customer could view consecutive product images in the video catalog, like browsing through a printed catalog, and then, for particular products of interest, the customer could fast forward through the video catalog to the demonstration of the particular product, or could use the searching functions to find the demonstration. For example, the demonstration of product 7659 could be displayed by the playing device 1 by inputting via buttons 6 the code "find" "#3" "7659", where "#3" is the code for demonstrations.

Detailed Description Text (16):

Order form 8 corresponds to a specific video-tape for the playing device 1. Order form 8 contains product information which corresponds to the plurality of product images 2 in the video catalog. By referring to order form 8, the customer may establish the product identification 4 of any particular product image 2.

Detailed Description Text (17):

A library of order forms may be created to correspond to a library of video catalogs. The order forms 8 may be printed, and filled in by hand by the customer for return to the merchandiser. Or, order forms 8 may be an electronic record created by electronic interaction of the customer with the order form. This electronic interaction may be, for example, the customer inputting via buttons 6 the code "order" followed by the product identification 4 or the product name. The electronic order form may be stored, for example, in the computer memory of the remote controller 5, computer memory contained the display device 1, or other computer memory or storage. The order form, then, correlates the customer's choice of products to be purchased as selected by their product image 2, with their identification 4.

Detailed Description Text (18):

Preferably, order form 8 has a section listing available products organized in alphabetical or numerical order, or some other convenient order from the customers' point of view. For example, the order form may contain an alphabetical listing of products by product category and name, like "Cereals-- Special K.RTM.". Listed with the product name may be a short description of available sizes and prices, for example, and the product's identification for ordering purposes. This way, the screen number 3 or product identification 4 corresponding to a particular product or product image 2 may be conveniently located. Also, order form 8 has a section

for recording desired product identification numbers so they may be transmitted to the merchandiser. Order form 8 may be printed by the merchandiser and distributed to the customers to be filled in by the customers. Or, order form 8 may be printed by the customer, either manually, or, for example, by remote controller 5. Or, the order form may be included as an order form image in the video catalog to be displayed on the display device. This order form image may be "filled in" by the electronic interaction of the customer with the remote controller or other computer, either by entering order commands that are stored only in the memory of the computer or that are stored in the memory but also displayed as check marks or notations, for example, on the order form image. In any event, a record of the customer's order is created, and the information in it is transmitted to the merchandiser's order-taking facility, by mail, phone 9, or electronic transmission, for example.

CLAIMS:

1. A home shopping system which comprises:

a video catalog containing a plurality of product images representing products available for purchase and containing product identification corresponding to each product image, the product images being for electronic display for viewing by a customer;

an order form containing product identification which corresponds to the said product image in said video catalog, said order form comprising product names, and said order form being organized and indexed for quick reference by the customer by arranging the product names in alphabetical order with the corresponding product identification being listed beside each product name;

means for indicating on said order form the product identification of the products desired for purchase from the products available for purchase; and

means for transmitting said order form indicating the product identification of products desired for purchase to a merchandiser of said products.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as still images.

3. The system of claim 1, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as moving images.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as a combination of still and moving images.

6. The system of claim 1, wherein the means of transmitting said order form comprises electronic transmission.

7. The system of claim 1, further comprising a remote controller for controlling the electronic display of the product images of the video catalog.

8. A home shopping system which comprises:

a video catalog containing a plurality of product images representing products available for purchase and containing product identification corresponding to each product image, the product images being for electronic display for viewing by a customer;

an order form containing product identification which corresponds to the said product image in said video catalog, said order form comprising product names and product categories, and said order form being organized and indexed for quick

reference by the customer by arranging the product categories in alphabetical order with the corresponding product names being listed alphabetically near the product categories and with the product identification being listed beside each product name;

means for indicating on said order form the product identification of the products desired for purchase from the products available for purchase; and

means for transmitting said order form indicating the product identification of products desired for purchase to a merchandiser of said products.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as still images.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as moving images.

11. The system of claim 8, wherein the video catalog contains product images that may be displayed as a combination of still and moving images.

13. The system of claim 8, wherein the means of transmitting said order form comprises electronic transmission.

14. The system of claim 8, further comprising a remote controller for controlling the electronic display of the product images of the video catalog.

[First Hit](#) [Fwd Refs](#)

Generate Collection

Print

L4: Entry 1 of 2

File: USPT

Jun 30, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5774870

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5774870 A

TITLE: Fully integrated, on-line interactive frequency and award redemption program

DATE-ISSUED: June 30, 1998

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Storey; Thomas W.	Scottsdale	AZ		

ASSIGNEE-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY	TYPE CODE
Netcentives, Inc.	San Francisco	CA			02

APPL-NO: 08/ 572017 [PALM]

DATE FILED: December 14, 1995

INT-CL: [06] G06 F 7/00

US-CL-ISSUED: 705/14; 705/17, 705/26, 705/27

US-CL-CURRENT: 705/14; 705/17, 705/26, 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 395/226, 395/227, 395/607, 395/615, 707/7, 707/104

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Search Selected

Search ALL

Clear

PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5287</u>	February 1847	McCarthy	364/405
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>4992940</u>	February 1991	Dworkin	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5025372</u>	June 1991	Burton et al.	364/406
<input type="checkbox"/> <u>5056019</u>	October 1991	Schultz et al.	364/405

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN-PAT-NO	PUBN-DATE	COUNTRY	US-CL
0308224	March 1989	EP	

1565286	April 1980	GB
308224	March 1989	GB
9312489	June 1993	WO

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Ernex database marketing, www.stockgroup.com/csu/ernex/ernex.html unknwn.
B-to-b tests interactive media, Advertising Age, pp. B14, B 15, Aug. 1995.

ART-UNIT: 271

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Voeltz; Emanuel T.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: Gratt; Phillip

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Fliesler, Dubb, Meyer & Lovejoy, LLP

ABSTRACT:

An fully integrated on-line frequency award program is disclosed. A user may access the program on-line and may brows a product catalog for shopping. The user may electronically place an order, upon which the program automatically checks the user's credit and electronically issues a purchase order to the supplying company. The program also calculates award points, updates the award account of enrolled users, and communicates that number of awarded points to the user. Enrolled users may browse through an award catalog and electronically redeem an amount of awarded points towards an award. The program then electronically places an award redeeming order with the fulfillment house and updates the user's award account.

30 Claims, 6 Drawing figures

[First Hit](#) [Fwd Refs](#)

End of Result Set

☐ [Generate Collection](#) [Print](#)

L4: Entry 2 of 2

File: USPT

Sep 19, 1995

US-PAT-NO: 5451998

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5451998 A

TITLE: Home shopping video catalog

DATE-ISSUED: September 19, 1995

INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

NAME	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTRY
Hamrick; Daniel C.	Boise	ID	83704	

APPL-NO: 08/ 222686 [\[PALM\]](#)

DATE FILED: April 4, 1994

INT-CL: [06] H04 N 7/00, H04 N 7/10, H04 N 7/14

US-CL-ISSUED: 348/13; 348/1, 348/7, 348/10, 348/14, 348/17, 348/5, 364/401, 364/403

US-CL-CURRENT: 725/60; 705/27

FIELD-OF-SEARCH: 348/7, 348/10, 348/12, 348/13, 348/14, 348/16, 348/17, 348/1, 348/5, 364/401, 364/403

PRIOR-ART-DISCLOSED:

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[Search Selected](#) [Search ALL](#) [Clear](#)

	PAT-NO	ISSUE-DATE	PATENTEE-NAME	US-CL
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4734764</u>	March 1988	Pocock et al.	358/86
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4876592</u>	October 1989	Von Kohorn	358/84
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>4984155</u>	January 1991	Geier et al.	348/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5128752</u>	July 1992	Von Kohorn	358/84
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5191410</u>	March 1993	McCalley et al.	348/13
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5231566</u>	July 1993	Blutinger et al.	364/401
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5249044</u>	September 1993	Von Kohorn	358/86
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5285278</u>	February 1994	Holman	348/5
<input type="checkbox"/>	<u>5287181</u>	February 1994	Holman	348/1

ART-UNIT: 262

PRIMARY-EXAMINER: Groody; James J.

ASSISTANT-EXAMINER: West; Nina M.

ATTY-AGENT-FIRM: Pedersen; Ken J. Pedersen; Barbara S.

ABSTRACT:

This invention is an apparatus and method for shopping at home. The apparatus comprises a video catalog in which a plurality of product images are established, each product image being coordinated with a corresponding product identification in an order form. The video catalog and the order form are distributed to prospective customers. The customers may view the video catalog and product images, and select the corresponding identification of desired product(s) in the order form. Then, to place an order, the customer transmits the order form with the product identification(s) to the merchandiser, by phone, mail or electronic transmission, for example. Then, the merchandiser may arrange for payment of the order by the customer, and delivery of the corresponding product(s) to the customer.

14 Claims, 4 Drawing figures



L11: Entry 8 of 10

File: USPT

Oct 29, 1996

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5570291 A

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Custom product estimating and order processing system

Application Filing Date (1):19940831Detailed Description Text (13):

As will be described below in connection with the Manufacturing Information Processing System (MIPS), a Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 and a Data Collection subsystem 108 monitor the materials used in the plants for fulfilling customer orders. The plant 14 provides data from the Data Collection subsystem 108 to the Labor and Material subsystem 94 and to the Estimating subsystem 90 relating to the materials and equipment used, as well as the labor required, to fulfill a particular order. The data from the Data Collection Subsystem 108 is used for performing actual cost analysis at the corporate office, for job planning at the plant and, once the actual materials used to complete an order have been determined, for updating a Planning Bill of Materials subsystem 102 and the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104. The plant 14 can therefore provide data to the sales site regarding the status of an order for improved customer service. Further, the Purchasing subsystem 84 and the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 or the Labor and Material subsystem 94 provides the Estimating subsystem 90 with information concerning material attributes such as weight, paper grade, paper or ink color, material codes and material quote information (e.g., quote number, effective date, and material price) and therefore facilitates the process of determining more accurate estimates for the cost of fulfilling a customer order. Similarly, the Labor and Material subsystem 94 provides the Estimating subsystem 90 with standard material cost information, actual job information received from the Job Scheduling and Tracking subsystem 100 in the various plants, as well as actual production information such as waste percentages, feet per run hour and actual material usage.

Detailed Description Text (14):

Information from the plant is also used by the General Ledger subsystem 96 to generate accounting journal entries. As stated previously, the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104 and the Data Collection subsystem 108 monitor the materials used in the plants for fulfilling customer orders. The Purchasing subsystem 84 receives requisitions from the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem 104. When the material receipt is received, it is used to update the Raw Material Inventory Control subsystem via the Receiving System 106. This information is provided to an Accounts Payable subsystem 98 for automatically tracking the accounts payable to the various vendors of these supplies. The Accounts Payable data is also provided to the General Ledger subsystem 96.

Detailed Description Text (16):

MIPS 89 further comprises a Raw Materials Inventory Control subsystem 104 for monitoring supplies (e.g., paper, ink), and informing the Purchasing subsystem 84 when raw materials are needed. A Receiving subsystem 106 monitors the receipt of raw materials for custom product manufacturing, as well as receipt of finished

goods, e.g., release order forms that have already been produced and are being warehoused, and office supplies such as staplers that are offered for resale in a catalogue along with the release forms. A Data Collection subsystem 108 collects data relating to materials and labor used per job, per customer and per plant. This data can be used for internally monitoring the performance of the plant. This data can also be used by the Labor and Materials subsystem 94 for cost accounting.

Detailed Description Text (39):

With reference to the affirmative branch of decision block 145 and block 147, the Estimating subsystem 90 can generate an estimate for an item that is to be priced in accordance with a contractual agreement between the customer and the corporation. As will be described below in connection with FIGS. 28 through 36, contract price matrices can be generated to reflect contractual terms. Contract price matrices can be created as a subset of the standard or generic price matrices used to generate estimates for non-contract items. The generic price matrices can be used for estimating any customers' orders. The generic price matrices are generally based upon raw material prices, equipment and other factors that affect actual cost to fulfill an order. A custom price matrix, on the other hand, can include contractual concessions between the forms manufacturer and the customer resulting in prices below, for example, the standard prices, i.e., discounts for the volume of business the customer brings to the manufacturer. An advantage of using contract price matrices is that they support contract proposal generation by corporate personnel in, for example, a Contract Administration division of the corporation by developing matrices of multiple items. This is particularly useful when the corporation is offering concessions to a customer with a large number of existing forms. The contract matrices eliminate the need to perform an estimate for each form for contract proposal purposes. Since contract terms are stored at the corporate office, corporate personnel can perform contract profit and other types of analysis, and provide contract customers with a common reference for pricing.

Hit List

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Generate OACS				

Search Results - Record(s) 1 through 10 of 10 returned.

☐ 1. Document ID: US 6664972 B2

L11: Entry 1 of 10

File: USPT

Dec 16, 2003

US-PAT-NO: 6664972

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6664972 B2

TITLE: Methods, systems and computer program products for coordinating patterns of interior design surface treatments for interior spaces

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	Drawings	Drawings
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☐ 2. Document ID: US 6531085 B1

L11: Entry 2 of 10

File: USPT

Mar 11, 2003

US-PAT-NO: 6531085

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6531085 B1

TITLE: Method for improving strength of elastic strand

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	Drawings	Drawings
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☐ 3. Document ID: US 6329180 B1

L11: Entry 3 of 10

File: USPT

Dec 11, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6329180

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6329180 B1

TITLE: Genetic analysis using peptide tagged in-vitro synthesized proteins

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	Drawings	Drawings
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☐ 4. Document ID: US 6302997 B1

L11: Entry 4 of 10

File: USPT

Oct 16, 2001

US-PAT-NO: 6302997

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 6302997 B1

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Process for producing a pulp suitable for papermaking from nonwood fibrous materials

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	KWMC	Draw De
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☐ 5. Document ID: US 5993662 A

L11: Entry 5 of 10

File: USPT

Nov 30, 1999

US-PAT-NO: 5993662

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5993662 A

TITLE: Method of purifying and identifying a large multiplicity of chemical reaction products simultaneously

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	KWMC	Draw De
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☐ 6. Document ID: US 5758329 A

L11: Entry 6 of 10

File: USPT

May 26, 1998

US-PAT-NO: 5758329

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5758329 A

TITLE: System for managing customer orders and method of implementation

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	KWMC	Draw De
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☐ 7. Document ID: US 5666493 A

L11: Entry 7 of 10

File: USPT

Sep 9, 1997

US-PAT-NO: 5666493

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5666493 A

TITLE: System for managing customer orders and method of implementation

Full	Title	Citation	Front	Review	Classification	Date	Reference	Abstract	Claims	KWMC	Draw De
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☒ 8. Document ID: US 5570291 A

L11: Entry 8 of 10

File: USPT

Oct 29, 1996

US-PAT-NO: 5570291

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5570291 A

**** See image for Certificate of Correction ****

TITLE: Custom product estimating and order processing system